

REMARKS

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested prior to the first Office Action and prior to the calculation of the filing fee for the subject application. After entry of this Amendment, claims 1 - 9 are pending in the application. Claims 1 - 9 have been amended.

The Amendment to the specification merely adds the required subtitles and eliminates reference to the claims. The abstract is added according to C.F.R. 1.72(b). The abstract is the same as in the coversheet of publication WO 03/105904A1 of PCT/EP03/05830. No new matter has been added.

It is submitted that this Amendment has antecedent basis in the application as originally filed, including the specification, claims and drawings, and that this Amendment does not add any new subject matter to the application.

Consideration of the application as amended is requested. It is submitted that this Amendment places the application in suitable condition for allowance; notice of which is requested.

If the Examiner feels that prosecution of the present application can be expedited by way of an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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DPC/dge